Africa Summary

Jordan Breneisen, Tanner Tyson

1. Africa is a large continent with a wide variety of climates.
2. Africa has many breathtaking geological features. Africa is believed to be the first home of humans.
3. Africa has rainforests that cover about a fifth of its surface. The rainforests are rich in life, but not conducive to farming or livestock.
4. Although Africa has many rivers, they are not very useful for transportation, except on the east coast. Through trade, Muslims and Africans developed the Swahili language.
5. For a long time, the Cush were rulers of Egypt. They developed their own hieroglyphics which have still not been translated.
6. Sudan was full of prosperous peoples who thrived on rich resources, especially salt and gold.
7. The king of the new Mali empire, Mansa Musa, traveled through Cairo on his pilgrimage to Mecca. Ibn Battuta visited Mali and noticed that it was very peaceful.
8. Near the coast of West Africa, early cultures included the Nok. Benin and Ife were to forest cities. Benin was still thriving when Europeans arrived.
9. Zimbabwe has many small, deserted buildings even though the people who once lived there mined gold and traded with people of the east coast.
10. Ancient Africa was awesome.